Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

### Pressure Sensors for Glenn Extreme Environment Rig and Planetary Science Applications, Phase I



Completed Technology Project (2018 - 2019)

#### **Project Introduction**

In-situ instrumentation is needed that can withstand the harsh environments imposed by planetary atmospheres in order to make advancements in solar system exploration. Technologies that can withstand the corrosive/caustic gases, radiation levels, stresses, and high temperatures and pressures, while still producing reliable, real-time data are a major facilitator for planetary missions. To address this need, Sporian is developing a harsh environment pressure sensor targeted toward the Glenn Extreme Environment Rig (GEER) and future Venus probe spacecraft. The proposed technology will be beneficial to NASA's planetary science mission by facilitating, environmental chamber testing/validation, and pressure measurements in the Venus atmosphere and on the surface. The Phase I effort will focus on heavily leveraging prior harsh environment, in-situ instrumentation development and, with input from current/prior NASA partners, construct, test, and characterize prototype sensor suites. If successful, Sporian will be well prepared for Phase II efforts focused on producing full demonstration units for application-relevant testing and addressing integration strategies.

#### **Anticipated Benefits**

A harsh environment sensor that can provide real-time pressure information has the potential to provide major advancements in planetary science. The technology will target the Glenn Extreme Environment Rig and its capability to mimic planetary conditions such as those on Venus, but be directly applicable to both current and future NASA programs/directorates, and facilitate innovations in vehicle performance monitoring, environmental testing, and atmospheric characterization of planetary bodies.

Aero propulsion turbine engines, commonly used in commercial and military jets, would benefit significantly by having a non-invasive, small mass, on engine pressure sensor allowing for visibility of the conditions in the turbine engine. Additional potential market areas include: marine propulsion, rail locomotives, land based power generation turbines, automotive, oil and gas refining, nuclear power generation, concentrating solar power systems, and government and academic laboratories.



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#### **Table of Contents**

Project Introduction	1
Anticipated Benefits	1
Primary U.S. Work Locations	
and Key Partners	2
Project Transitions	2
Organizational Responsibility	2
Project Management	2
Images	3
Technology Maturity (TRL)	3
Technology Areas	3
Target Destination	3



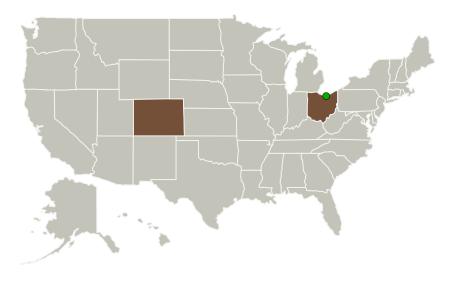
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#### **Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners**



Organizations Performing Work	Role	Туре	Location
Sporian	Lead	Industry	Lafayette,
Microsystems, Inc.	Organization		Colorado
Glenn Research Center(GRC)	Supporting	NASA	Cleveland,
	Organization	Center	Ohio

Primary U.S. Work Locations	
Colorado	Ohio

#### **Project Transitions**

July 2018: Project Start



February 2019: Closed out

#### **Closeout Documentation:**

• Final Summary Chart(https://techport.nasa.gov/file/141239)

## Organizational Responsibility

### Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

#### **Lead Organization:**

Sporian Microsystems, Inc.

#### **Responsible Program:**

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

### **Project Management**

#### **Program Director:**

Jason L Kessler

#### **Program Manager:**

Carlos Torrez

#### **Principal Investigator:**

Kevin Harsh

#### **Co-Investigator:**

Kevin Harsh

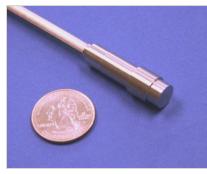


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#### **Images**



#### **Briefing Chart Image**

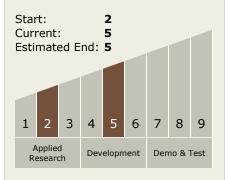
Pressure Sensors for Glenn Extreme Environment Rig and Planetary Science Applications, Phase I (https://techport.nasa.gov/imag e/126961)



#### **Final Summary Chart Image**

Pressure Sensors for Glenn Extreme Environment Rig and Planetary Science Applications, Phase I (https://techport.nasa.gov/imag e/136111)

## Technology Maturity (TRL)



### **Technology Areas**

#### **Primary:**

- TX08 Sensors and Instruments
  - ☐ TX08.1 Remote Sensing Instruments/Sensors
    - ☐ TX08.1.4 Microwave, Millimeter-, and Submillimeter-Waves

### **Target Destination**

Others Inside the Solar System

